

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, UN
SUBJECT: MOVE OF UN DRUG CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS
TO VIENNA

REF: (A) VIENNA 3012; (B) GENEVA 4429; (C) GENEVA 3870

SUMMARY. UNDER-SYG DAVIDSON WROTE SIMILAR LETTERS TO
HEADS OF THREE GENEVA-BASED UN DRUG CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS
SETTING TARGET DATE OF 1 JULY 1979 FOR TRANSFER OF ALL
THREE UNITS (DND, INCB AND UNFDAC) TO VIENNA. TEXT OF
MARCH 29 LETTER TO UNFDAC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REXED FOLLOWS.
END SUMMARY.

BEGIN TEXT - "AS YOU KNOW, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ITS
RESOLUTION 31/194 OF 22 DECEMBER 1976, APPROVED A PHASED
PLAN REGARDING THE UTILIZATION OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION
AND CONFERENCE FACILITIES AT THE DONAU PARK CENTRE IN
VIENNA, AND AUTHORIZED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PUT INTO
EFFECT SOME OF THE PROPOSALS HE HAD MADE REGARDING THE
TRANSFER OF ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS FROM NEW YORK AND GENEVA
TO VIENNA. AMONG THE PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE GENERAL
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ASSEMBLY WAS THE TRANSFER, IN 1979, OF THE SECRETARIAT
OF THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL. THE WORK TOWARDS
COMPLETING THE DONAU PARK CENTRE HAS NOW PROGRESSED TO A
POINT WHERE WE ARE ABLE TO CONFIRM THAT THE BUILDINGS WILL
BE READY FOR OCCUPANCY IN MID-1979. I KNOW THAT YOU
WOULD WANT TO HAVE AS MUCH ADVANCE WARNING AS POSSIBLE
OF THE EXACT TIMING OF THE MOVE OF YOUR UNIT, AND I AM

THEREFORE WRITING TO TELL YOU THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS DECIDED ON A TARGET DATE OF 1 JULY 1979 FOR THE TRANSFER OF ALL THREE ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS DEALING WITH NARCOTICS CONTROL, THAT IS, THE DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND THE SECRETARIATS OF UNFDAC AND THE INCB, TO VIENNA.

"THERE ARE, THEREFORE, FIFTEEN MONTHS DURING WHICH TO PLAN EVERY ASPECT OF THIS MOVE. AS YOU KNOW, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS APPOINTED MR. BOURBONNIERE AS DIRECTOR OF THE COORDINATING OFFICE WHICH WILL WORK ON PLANS TO SMOOTH THE TRANSITION OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS TRANSFERRED TO THEIR NEW QUARTERS, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT A WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED IN GENEVA TO DEAL WITH THE DETAILED PREPARATIONS FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE UNITS CONCERNED. I HAVE ASKED MR. RUEDAS TO INFORM ME, FROM TIME TO TIME, OF THE STATUS OF THESE PREPARATIONS.

"AS REGARDS THE PERSONNEL ASPECTS OF THE MOVE, THE GENERAL POLICY IS THAT EACH PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER IS EXPECTED TO TRANSFER TO VIENNA; EVERY ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO RELOCATE GENERAL SERVICE STAFF IN THE UNITED NATIONS AT GENEVA EXCEPT IF A CASE IS MADE THAT REQUIRED SKILLS, POSSESSED BY A GENERAL SERVICE STAFF MEMBER, ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN VIENNA, AND WOULD JUSTIFY THEREFORE THE TRANSFER OF THE STAFF MEMBER TO VIENNA. THE APPLICATION

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OF THIS GENERAL POLICY TO EACH STAFF MEMBER IN YOUR UNIT WILL, OF COURSE, NEED CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, AND THE OFFICE OF PERSONNEL SERVICES WILL BE CONTACTING EVERY ONE OF THEM ON THE PERSONNEL ASPECTS OF THE MOVE. IN THE MEANTIME, I WOULD ASK YOU TO INFORM YOUR STAFF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS LETTER, AND TO START DRAWING UP THE NECESSARY PLANS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOVE."

END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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